

MARVEL

15

DAVID
SLINEY
ROSENBERG



DAMNATION

BEN REILLY: THE SCARLET SPIDER®



Years ago, Miles Warren, one of Peter Parker's college professors, stole a sample of Peter's genetic material and used it to create a perfect clone of Spider-Man. With all of Peter's memories, the clone fled. Created, not born, and without an identity of his own, he gave himself a new name and made his own way in the world as...



BEN REILLY: THE SCARLET SPIDER

Following a misguided turn as a super villain, **BEN REILLY** has made a home for himself in Las Vegas. Becoming the **SCARLET SPIDER** once more, he has been trying to be a better man. But lately, Ben's choices have been less than heroic. After a visit from Lady Death, he learned that his very soul is now in jeopardy.

The people of Las Vegas have struggled to rebuild their lives in the wake of Hydra Cap's assault during **SECRET EMPIRE**. Dr. Stephen Strange, the Sorcerer Supreme and Master of the Mystic Arts, has decided to use his mighty magical powers to repair the city. But there are forces at work that threaten to plunge Vegas into a new nightmare.

Will the city of sin be redeemed or face...

DAMNATION

NOTE: THE EVENTS OF **BEN REILLY #15** TAKE PLACE DURING **DOCTOR STRANGE: DAMNATION #1 AND #2**.

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WHY DID I DO IT?
WHY DID I LET
MYSTERIO OFF THE
HOOK SO EASILY?

INSTEAD OF KICKING IN HIS
FRONT DOOR, I SHOULD HAVE
CALLED THE COPS ON HIM.
ONE ANONYMOUS TIP AND
THEY'D HAVE JUST SHOWN UP,
CAUGHT HIM OFF GUARD AND
SEARCHED HIS PLACE.

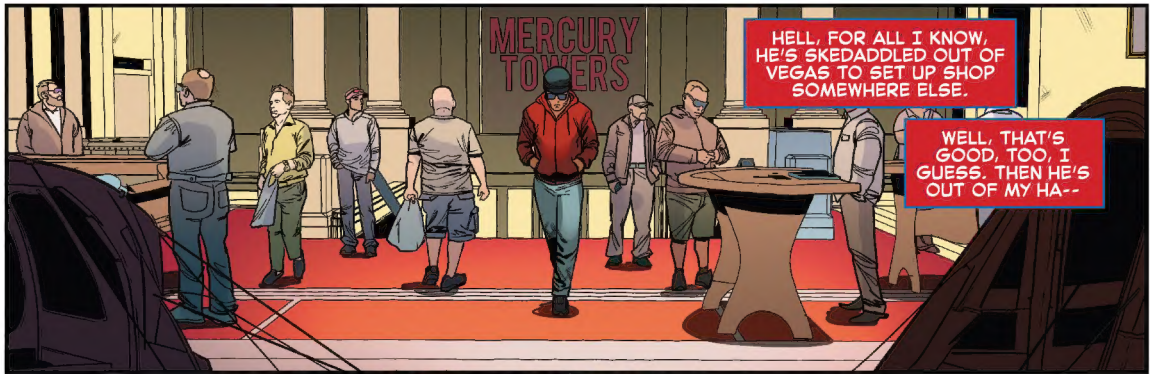
AND,
ABRACADABRA--
MYSTERIO
DISAPPEARS.



SCREW IT, BEN.
YOU KNOW WHY
YOU DID IT.

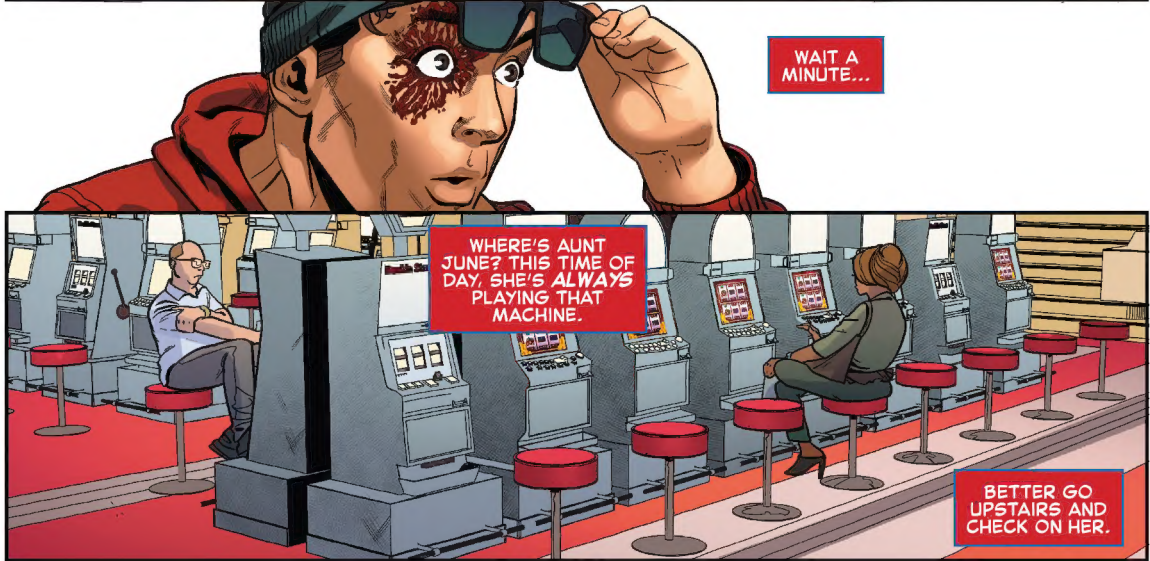
BECAUSE YOU
IDENTIFIED WITH
HIM, THAT'S WHY.

A GUY TRYING TO
TURN HIS LIFE
AROUND. AT LEAST,
THAT'S HIS STORY.



HELL, FOR ALL I KNOW,
HE'S SKEDADDLED OUT OF
VEGAS TO SET UP SHOP
SOMEWHERE ELSE.

WELL, THAT'S
GOOD, TOO, I
GUESS. THEN HE'S
OUT OF MY HA--



WAIT A
MINUTE...

WHERE'S AUNT
JUNE? THIS TIME OF
DAY, SHE'S ALWAYS
PLAYING THAT
MACHINE.

BETTER GO
UPSTAIRS AND
CHECK ON HER.



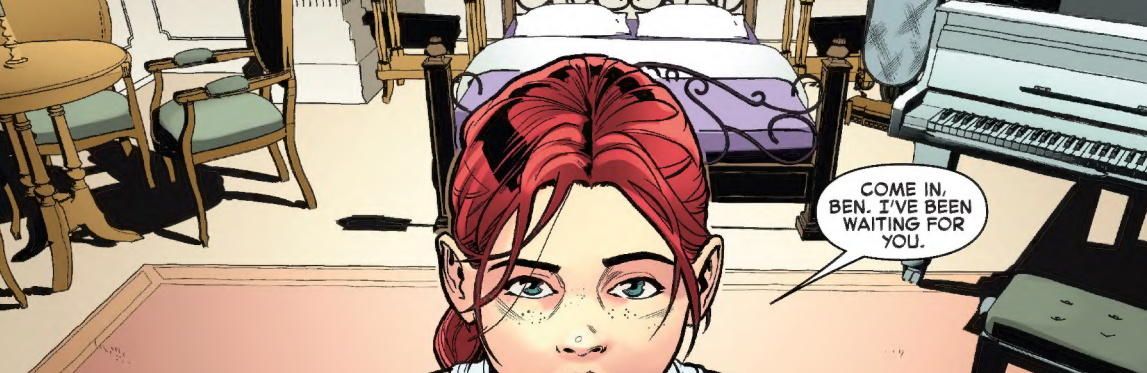
JUNE? IT'S
BEN. ARE YOU
IN THERE?



JUNE?
ARE YOU
OKAY--?



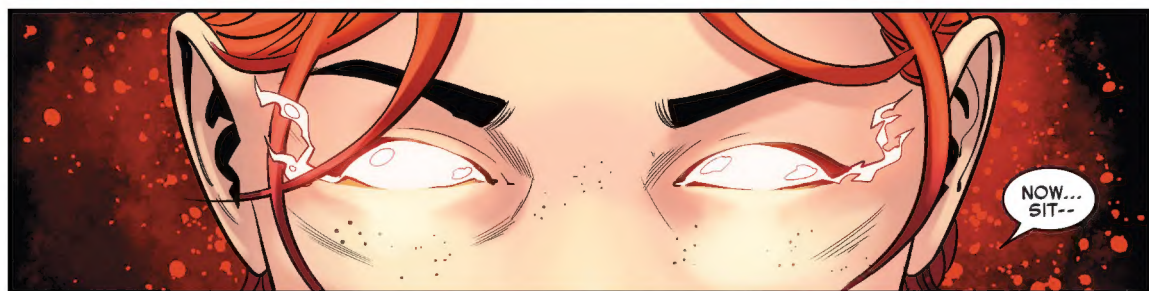
HI.

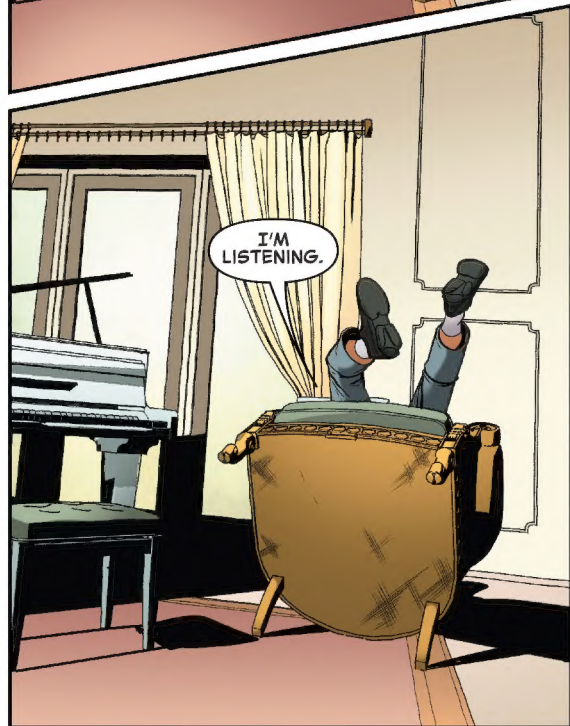
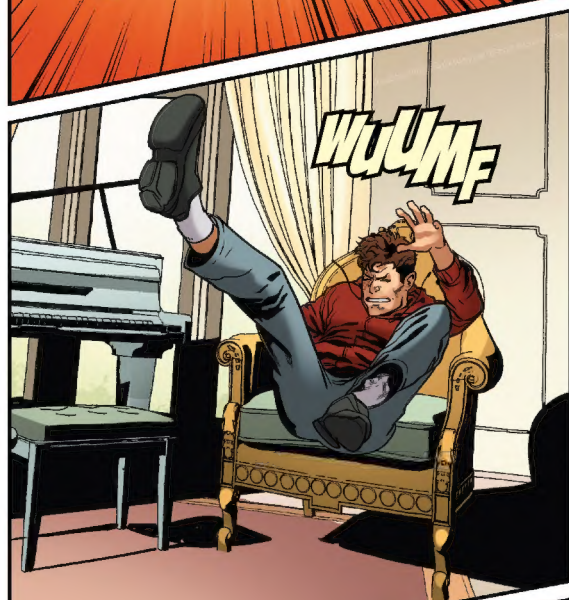


HUH?



COME IN,
BEN. I'VE BEEN
WAITING FOR
YOU.







DIVA, I'M WORRIED ABOUT THE CASINO. BETWEEN THE RESIDENTS WHO WERE DISPLACED FROM CAPTAIN AMERICA'S ATTACK LIVING IN THE GAMING HALL TO THE DONATION YOU JUST MADE TO THE LOCAL VETERANS CENTER, WE'RE LOW ON CASH.

I APPRECIATE YOUR CONCERN, SLATE. BUT I'VE JUST BOOKED A MAGIC ACT THAT'LL GET US **INTERNATIONAL HEADLINES**. THE REFUGEES WILL BE BACK IN THEIR HOMES SOON ENOUGH AND THE CHECK TO THE VETERANS CENTER WAS A FAVOR FOR A FRIEND.



IS IT THE SCARLET SPIDER? IT IS, ISN'T IT?

THE CASINO CAN'T BANKROLL YOUR BOYFRIENDS.

I OWE THE SPIDER A GREAT DEBT. BUT THAT'S WHERE OUR RELATIONSHIP ENDS. NOT THAT IT'S ANY CONCERN OF YOURS.



THERE'S ONE THING THAT'S ALWAYS BEEN CONSISTENT WITH YOU, DIVA.

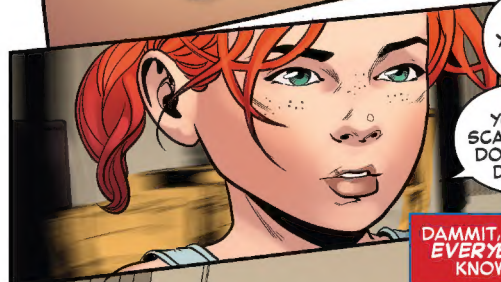
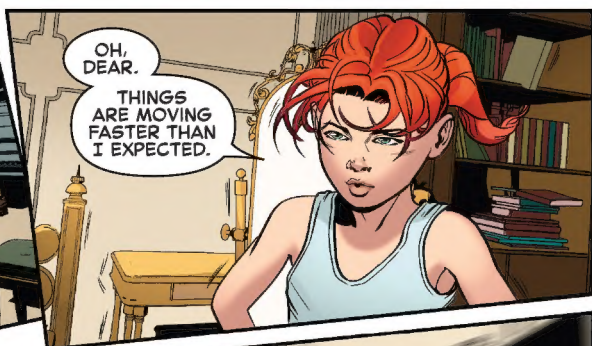
YOU'RE A LOUSY LIAR.

COME ON. WHAT'S--?



WHOOAAA!

EARTHQUAKE!



CLIMB ONTO THE WALL, BEN. YOU WON'T SKID AROUND THAT WAY.
I KNOW YOU'RE THE SCARLET SPIDER. DON'T BOTHER DENYING IT.

DAMMIT, DOES EVERYBODY KNOW?!

MAYBE I SHOULDN'T EVEN BOTHER WEARING A MASK ANYMORE!



NO. IT'S NOT.

DOCTOR STEPHEN STRANGE TOOK IT UPON HIMSELF TO REPAIR ALL THE DAMAGE DONE TO LAS VEGAS.

AS YOU KNOW, DOWNTOWN WAS ANNIHILATED. HE'S JUST REPAIRED IT.

BUT IN THE PROCESS, HE UNLEASHED... SOMETHING.

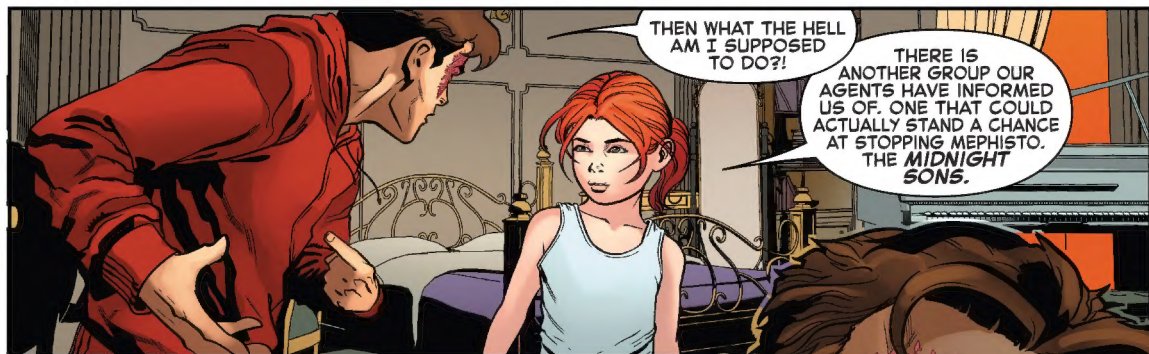
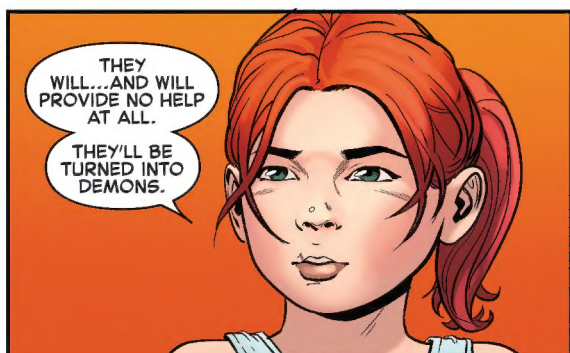
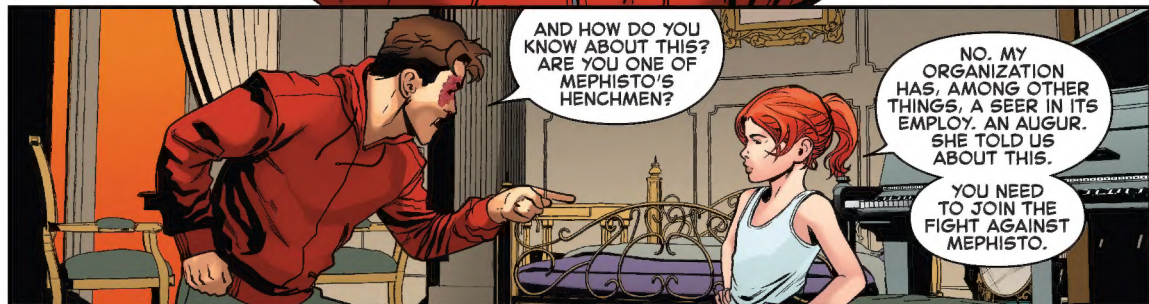




"IT'S CALLED
THE HOTEL
INFERNO..."

"...AND IT'S
BEING RUN BY
MEPHISTO."

TO Fab
LAS VEG
NEVADA





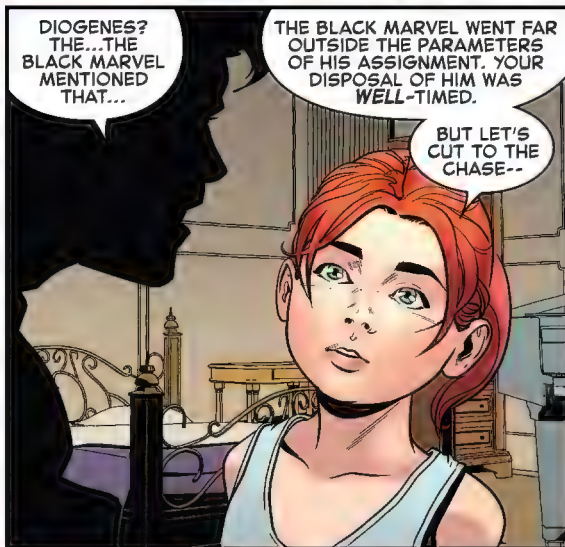
BE SURE
TO TELL THEM
THAT WHEN YOU
SEE THEM.



LOOK, KID,
WHATEVER YOUR
GROUP OR
ORGANIZATION
OR WHOEVER--

THE
DIOGENES
INITIATIVE.

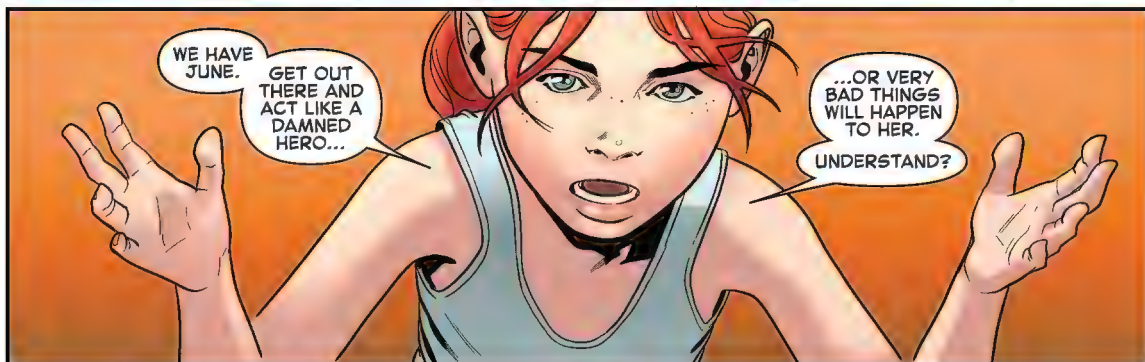
THE...



DIOGENES?
THE...THE
BLACK MARVEL
MENTIONED
THAT...

THE BLACK MARVEL WENT FAR
OUTSIDE THE PARAMETERS
OF HIS ASSIGNMENT. YOUR
DISPOSAL OF HIM WAS
WELL-TIMED.

BUT LET'S
CUT TO THE
CHASE--



WE HAVE
JUNE.

GET OUT
THERE AND
ACT LIKE A
DAMNED
HERO...

...OR VERY
BAD THINGS
WILL HAPPEN
TO HER.

UNDERSTAND?

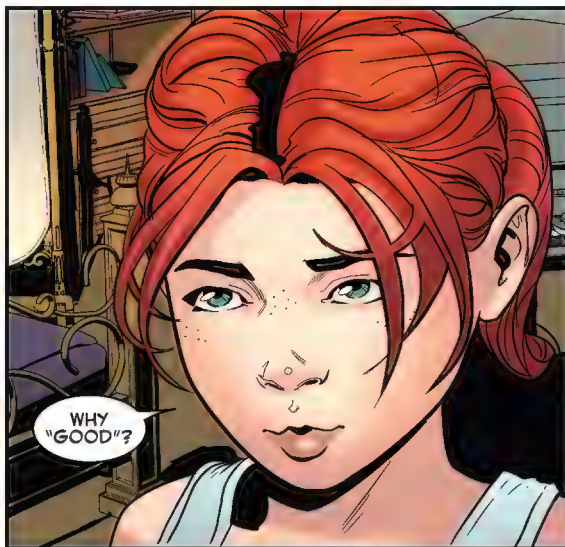


PERFECTLY.

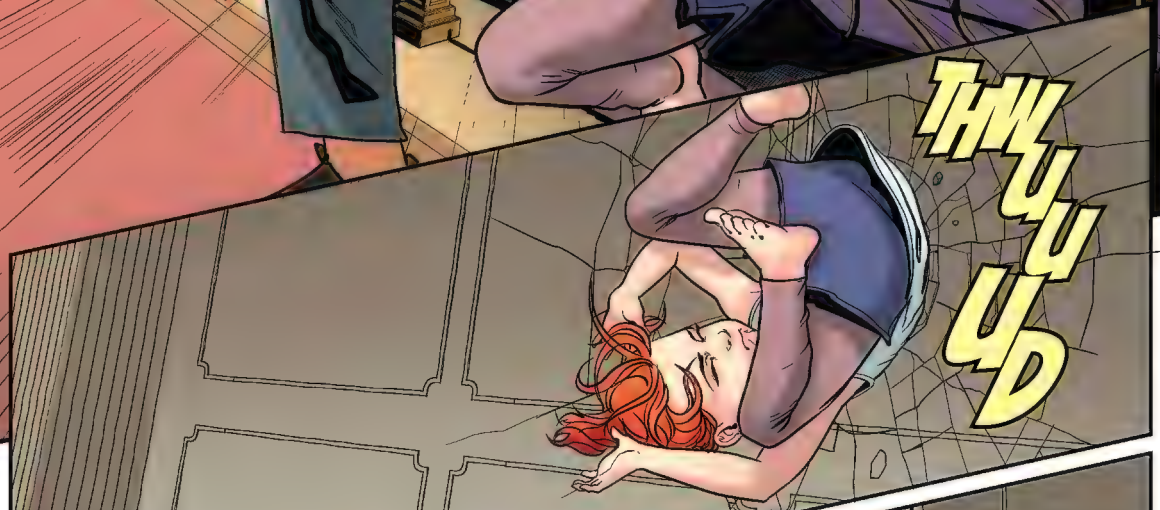
I ASSUME
YOU AREN'T
REALLY A LITTLE
GIRL.

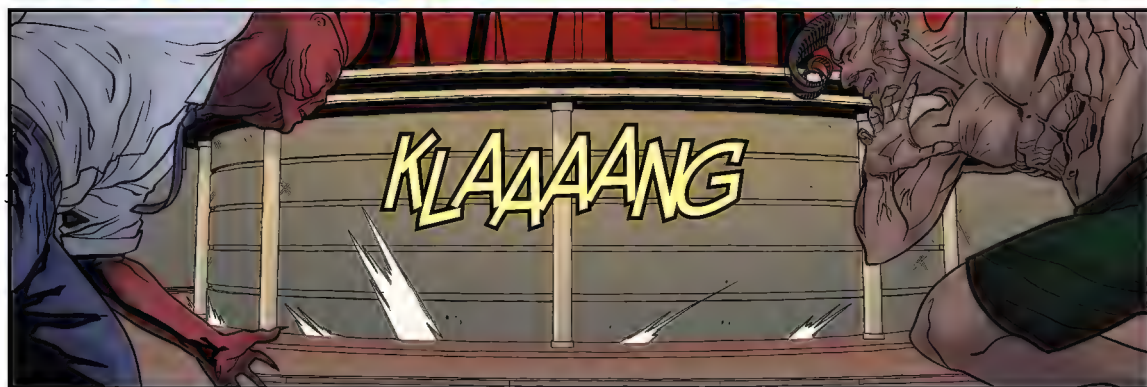
NO. I'M
NOT.

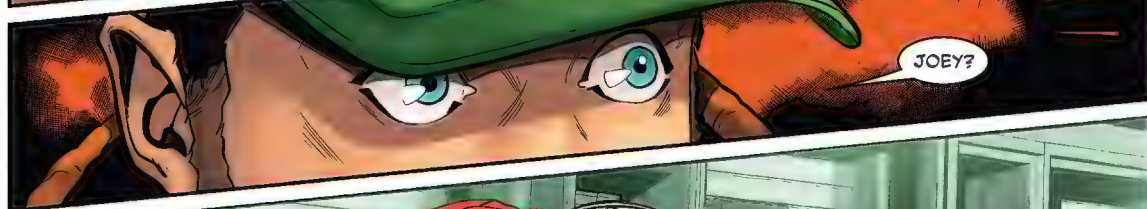
GOOD.

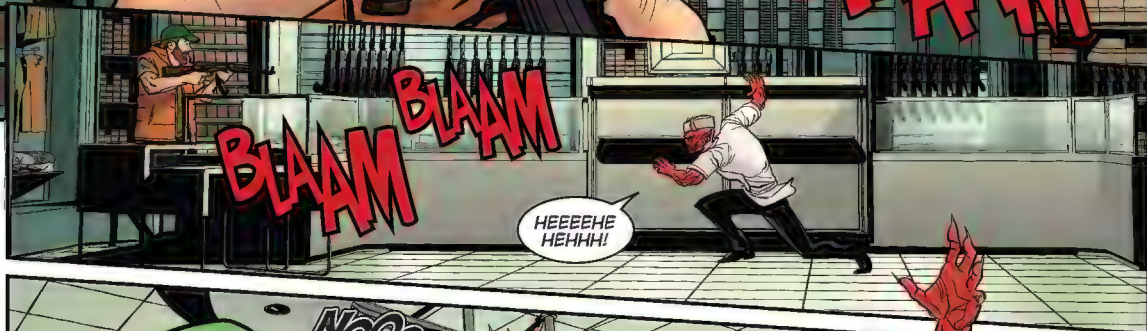


WHY
"GOOD"?





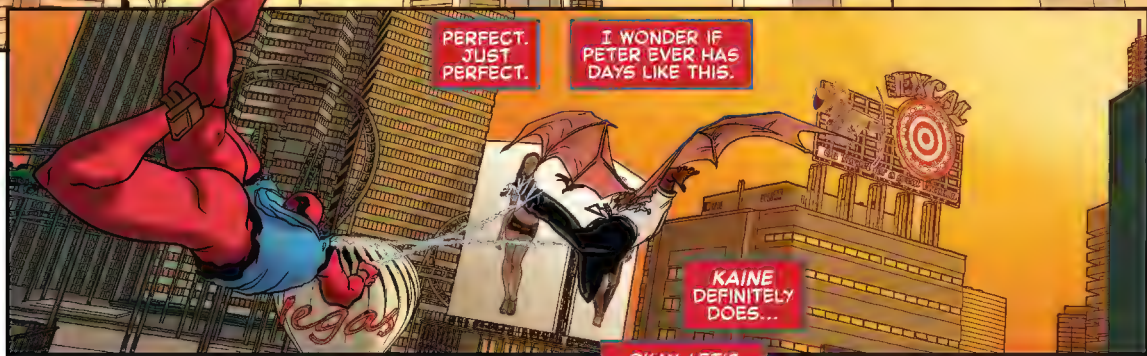








KRAAAASH

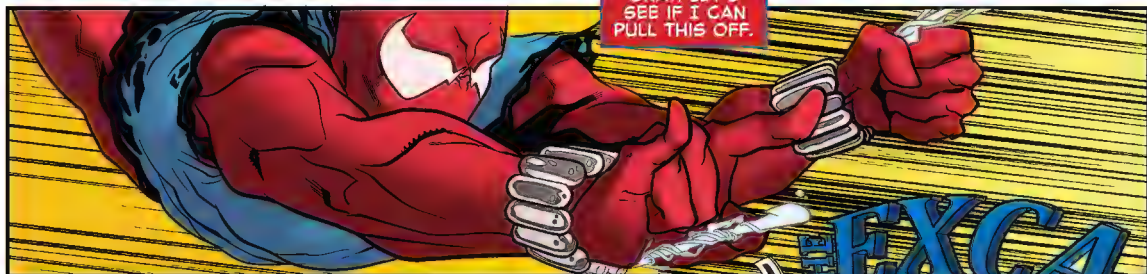


PERFECT.
JUST PERFECT.

I WONDER IF
PETER EVER HAS
DAYS LIKE THIS.

KAINE
DEFINITELY
DOES...

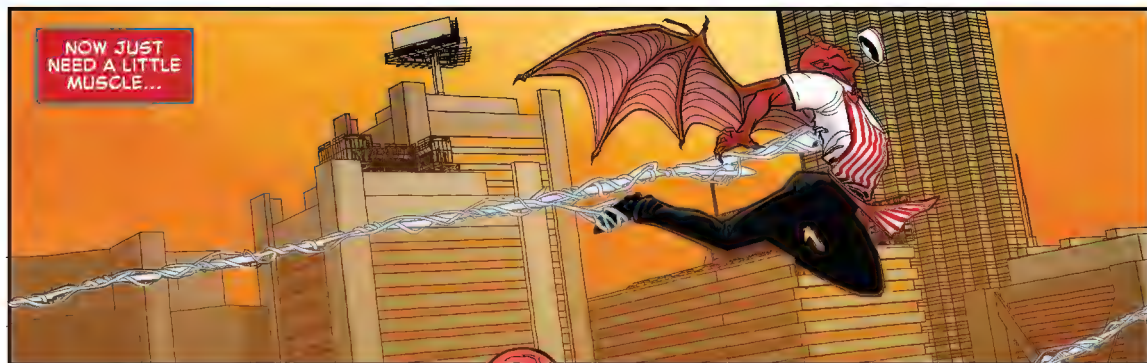
OKAY, LET'S
SEE IF I CAN
PULL THIS OFF.



EXCAL
TWIIP

GOT IT





NOW JUST
NEED A LITTLE
MUSCLE...



OKAY, A
LOT OF
MUSCLE



PERFECT!



NOW, NEXT STEP--
GOTTA GET BACK
TO THAT MILITARY
SUPPLY STORE.

I'M HEADING INTO
A WAR AND I'M
GONNA HAVE TO
SUIT UP FOR THAT.

A full-page comic book illustration of Deadpool in a store. He is wearing his signature red and blue suit, a tactical helmet with a red visor, and a brown tactical harness. He holds a large assault rifle in his right hand and a combat knife in his left. He is talking to a man in a green cap and orange vest who is crouching on the floor. The store has shelves of boxes in the background and debris on the floor.

THERE. THIS SHOULD HAVE YOU OUTFITTED FOR PRETTY MUCH ANYTHING.

EXTRA CARTRIDGES ARE IN THE POCKETS OF THE BELT.

I OWE YOU MY LIFE. FORGET IT.

WELL, THAT'S GOOD, BECAUSE I'M BROKE.

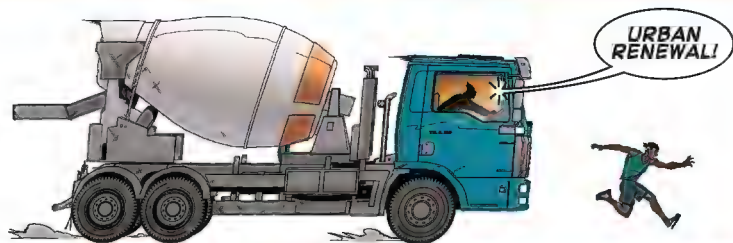
DO YOU HAVE A SECURE PLACE YOU CAN GO?

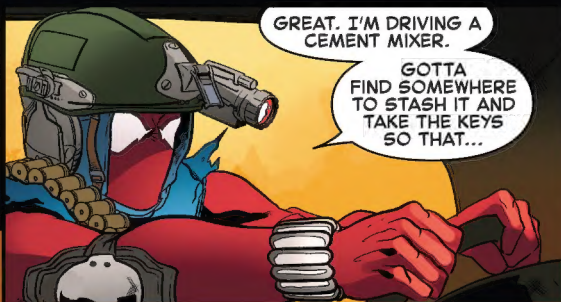
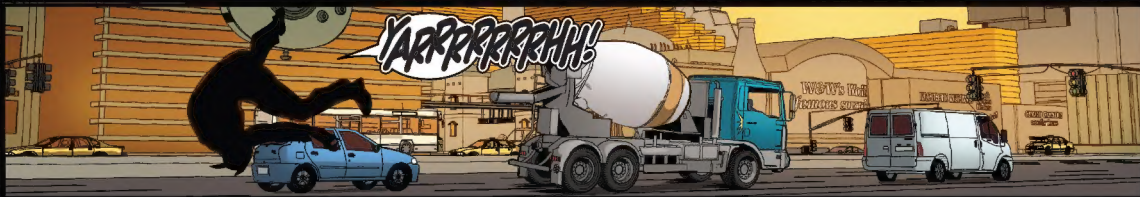
BASEMENT OF THIS STORE. I MADE IT OVER INTO A BOMB SHELTER. STOCKED IT WITH EVERYTHING I'D NEED WHEN THE APOCALYPSE ARRIVED.

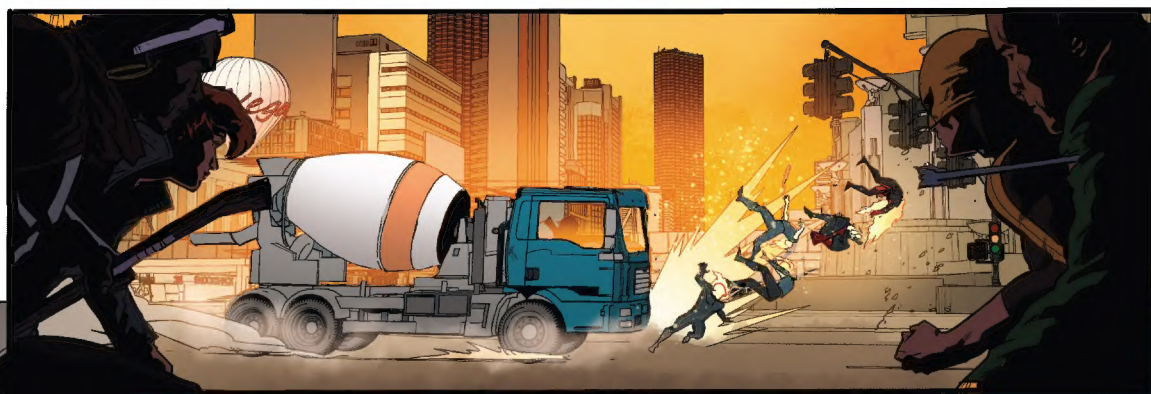
YOU SURE YOU WON'T TAKE ANY MONEY FOR THIS?

YEEEAHH. SWELL. HIDE DOWN THERE. I'LL COME BACK TO LET YOU KNOW WHEN EVERYTHING'S FIXED.

OR I MAY JUST LET YOU STAY THERE FOREVER.







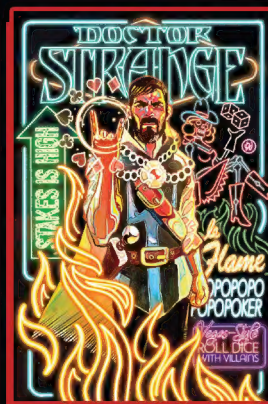
MAYBE.

TO SEE
WHAT HAPPENS
NEXT, PICK UP
DAMNATION #2!
ON SALE NOW!

**FOLLOW THE ROAD TO DAMNATION NOW THROUGH APRIL IN THE PAGES OF
DOCTOR STRANGE; BEN REILLY: SCARLET SPIDER; IRON FIST;
& DAMNATION: JOHNNY BLAZE GHOST RIDER**



DOCTOR STRANGE: DAMNATION 3



DOCTOR STRANGE 387



IRON FIST 78



BEN REILLY: SCARLET SPIDER 16



AN  ROBOROS
RELEASE - DCP